

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUAYAQ 01569 062107Z

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO USAFSO ALBROOK AFS CZ/01

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SECSTATE WASHDC 4184

AMEMBASSY QUITO

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 1569

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA PFOR EIND EC

SUBJ: GUAYAQUIL PERFORMANCES OF THE 776 AIR FORCE BAND

1. I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION AND SINCERE THANKS TO YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF THE AF BAND UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CAPTAIN KEN GREEN FOR THE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF THE BAND HERE IN GUAYAQUIL ON THE OCCASION OF THE FORMAL INAUGURATION OF THE U.S. PAVILION AT THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF ECUADOR.

2. BECAUSE OF THE SHORTAGE OF ACCOMMODATIONS THE MEMBERS OF THE BAND HAD TO BE HOUSED AT PLAYAS, A RESORT TOWN AN HOUR AND A HALF FROM GUAYAQUIL. THE MULTIPLE TRIPS WERE TIRING BUT "THE BAND PLAYED ON", NOT LETTING THE LONG RIDE DIMINISH IN ANY WAY THE STELLAR PERFORMANCES, THEIR STAMINA OR DEDICATION TO SERVICE.

3. THE BAND PLAYED ON OCTOBER 1 AT THE COLEGIO AMERICANO AND THE CENTRO ECUATORIANO NORTEAMERICANO. AT THE CENTER THEY PLAYED TO A FULL HOUSE (SRO) OF ABOUT 700 PERSONS WITH SINCERE EXTENDED APPLAUSE FOR THE TYPE OF MUSIC AND CALIBER OF PLAYING. THE BAND IS BY NOW A FAMOUS ATTRACTION IN ECUADOR.

4. ON OCTOBER 2 THE 11-MAN COMBO PLAYED INSIDE THE PAVILION TO A CROWD OF ABOUT 300 DURING THE RECEPTION FOR NEARLY TWO

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GUAYAQ 01569 062107Z

HOURS AND FROM 9:00-10:00 P.M. OUTSIDE THE PAVILION UNDER

THE STARS TO A CROWD ESTIMATED AT ABOUT A THOUSAND PERSONS.

5. A REQUEST WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF LOS RIOS FOR THE BAND TO PLAY ON OCTOBER 5 AT THE PROVINCIAL-DAY CELEBRATIONS AT BABAHoyo BUT WE WERE NOT ABLE TO SCHEDULE IT.

6. A BUS WAS PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE BAND FREE OF CHARGE BY COURTESY OF COLONEL FRANZ I. PUYOL M., ECUADOREAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER OF AERIAL ZONE II. I AM SENDING A NOTE OF THANKS TO HIM FOR HIS COURTESY.

7. PLEASE EXTEND TO CAPTAIN GREEN AND THE MEMBERS OF THE BAND MY SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION ON BEHALF OF THE U.S. COMMUNITY AND THE CITIZENRY OF GUAYAQUIL FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES. THEY ARE TRULY AMONG OUR BEST AMBASSADORS OF GOOD WILL. THE U.S. PAVILION AT THE FAIR IS A GREAT SUCCESS AND I BELIEVE THE AIR FORCE BAND PLAYED NO SMALL PART IN MAKING IT SO.
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